

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheets make changes to Figs. 1-5 and replace the original sheets with Figs. 1-5.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-9 and 11-18 are amended. The specification is amended with the inclusion of a marked-up copy of the originally filed specification and a clean substitute specification. The drawings are amended with the inclusion of replacement drawing sheets submitting formal Figs. 1-5. These amendments introduce no new matter as they are made for administrative purposes, in order to better clarify the subject matter disclosed in the specification and recited in the claims, and to correct certain informalities which Applicants discovered on detailed review of the application in preparation for filing this Amendment. Reconsideration of the rejections based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action, in paragraph 3, notes that the application is submitted with five sheets of informal drawings (Figs. 1-5). Applicants include replacement drawing sheets to submit formal drawings for this application.

The Office Action, in paragraph 4, rejects claims 1-19 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,115,656 to Sudolsky. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

At the outset, Applicants respectfully note that Sudolsky is discussed in the background section under a description of related art in this application (see paragraph [0005]). The subject matter recited in claims 1-19 is intended to overcome shortfalls of systems and methods such as those taught by Sudolsky.

Sudolsky teaches a method for recording and reporting fault information pertaining to various components of an aircraft, the method involving recording information output from various components of the aircraft onto an electronic medium (Abstract). The electronic medium is removed from the aircraft after landing and read by an appropriate apparatus (Abstract, emphasis added). Specifically, Sudolsky discloses that the method involved using

a mass storage device such as an optical quick access recorder from which the electronic medium can be easily removed (col. 6, lines 16-18). The electronic medium in Sudolsky monitors and records output signals from various components of an aircraft in real time (col. 6, lines 20-23). An optical storage disk is removed from the optical quick access recorder and transported to an appropriate optical disk reader associated with a personal computer after a mission flight is accomplished. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that while the monitoring function of the method disclosed in Sudolsky may occur in real time, the analysis (diagnosing and reporting) functions do not occur in real time. These are accomplished by a separate device apart from the aircraft after a specific flight and/or mission is completed (see generally col. 6, lines 27-38). As noted in paragraph [0005] of the specification, the invention in Sudolsky relies on expensive, proprietary equipment that is permanently installed on the aircraft, and that requires an extensive certification process to be undertaken due to its permanent installation. Also, the system may require a highly-skilled maintenance crew to board the aircraft after the flight and download the recorded LRU fault information.

Claim 1 recites a system for monitoring, reporting and diagnosing fault information of a vehicle on a real-time basis both within the vehicle and outside the vehicle, comprising ... a portable hardware component that is removable from the vehicle and that is usable to diagnose the fault information. Further, claim 1 recites, among other features, a data transmitting device for transmitting at least one of the fault information or the diagnosis of the fault information in real time between the vehicle location and at least one remote receiver location. Claim 11 recites, among other features, a method for monitoring, reporting and diagnosing fault information of a vehicle on a real-time basis both within the vehicle and outside the vehicle, comprising ... diagnosing the fault information with the portable hardware component; and transmitting at least one of the fault information or the diagnosis of

the fault information, in real time, between the vehicle location and at least one receiver in another location. According to these claims, it is the portable hardware component that accomplishes the real-time analysis and/or diagnoses of the fault information, and that then directs real-time reporting of the fault information and or the diagnosis of the fault information by transmitting such information from the vehicle, possibly while the vehicle is still in use. Sudolsky makes no provision for either of these features.

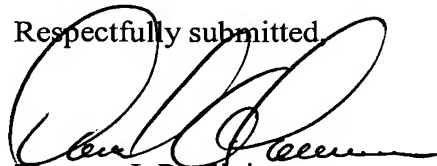
For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that Sudolsky cannot reasonably be read to teach, or even to have suggested, the combination of all of the features recited in at least independent claims 1 and 11. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-10 and 12-19 are also neither taught, nor would they have been suggested, by Sudolsky for at least the respective dependence of these claims on independent claims 1 and 11, as well as for the separably patentable subject matter which each of these claims recites.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-19 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Sudolsky are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-19 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas J. Pardini

Registration No. 30,411

Daniel A. Tanner, III

Registration No. 54,734

TJP:DAT

Attachments:

Marked-up Copy of the Originally Filed Specification
Substitute Specification
Amended Abstract
Replacement Drawing Sheets (Figs. 1-5)

Date: March 24, 2005

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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